

GERMANY'S DIGNITY MUST BE RESPECTED IN PEACE PROPOSALS

Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg Tells Reichstag War Cannot End So Long as His Country's Enemies Continue to Believe That the Central Powers Will Collapse—Points Germany Triumphant.

Berlin, Dec. 9.—So long as uncontrolled hatred of Germany and the belief that Germany is approaching a collapse continues, the dominant idea of the enemy countries, it would be folly for Germany to take the initiative in proposing terms of peace. Germany, however, is ready at any time to consider a peace suggestion from the countries with which she is at war, does not wish a continuation of the war, and disengages herself under these circumstances from any responsibility for its prolongation.

This is the substance of the German imperial chancellor's reply in the Reichstag today to the socialist interpellation on peace, in which he painted a picture of Germany triumphant on all sides and supplied with everything, even if not in abundance, necessary to the prolongation of the war.

The interpellation was introduced by Dr. Scheidegger in the following terms: "Is the imperial chancellor ready to give information as to the conditions under which he would be willing to enter into peace negotiations?"

"If our enemies make peace proposals compatible with Germany's dignity and safety," said Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, "then we shall always be ready to discuss them. So long as in the countries of our enemies the guilt and ignorance of statesmen are entangled with confusion of public opinion, it would be folly for Germany to make proposals, which would not shorten, but would lengthen the war. First, the marks must be torn from their faces."

Only two socialist spokesmen on the interpellation, all the non-socialist parties uniting in a short discussion opposing discussion at this moment. The tone of the debate was dignified and patriotic and the imperial chancellor was followed attentively and respectfully, except for occasional interruptions and outbursts of laughter from the socialist, Dr. Liebknecht, who has not been in accord with his party since the beginning of the war and who today received no sympathy.

The imperial chancellor in his first speech, lasting half an hour, explained the military situation on all the fronts and declared emphatically that Germany could not be starved out. The country had enough food, if properly distributed. Germany's enemies, he said, were suffering more from lack of food than were the Germans, who were eating higher prices for food.

"Rumors that Germany is on the verge of a collapse," said the chancellor, "and the attribution of a peace mission to every prominent German who goes abroad. Prince Von Buelow, Prince Maximilian of Baden, Dr. Solf, secretary for the colonies, and Cardinal von Hübscher, presented the typical appearance of a momentous day, there being not even standing room in the galleries. The American ambassador, James W. Gerard, was among the diplomats present. The great audience also included the Duke of Mecklenburg, Admiral von Tietz, minister of marine; Gottlieb von Jagow, minister of foreign affairs; Count Zepfeler; Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, undersecretary for foreign affairs; and Dr. Karl Helfferich, secretary of the imperial treasury and former director of the Deutsche Bank.

In his review of the military situation, the chancellor said: "In order to induce Bulgaria to fight for the entente, Serbia was asked to make a territorial concession, to which she was not inclined. Thus our enemies are divided at variance. The justified rage of the Balkan war was caused by the fact that the last Balkan war was conducted in favor of Serbia. Last year the Serbs, Bulgaria, who were the main burden of the war, had to see the fruits of her victories fall to her Serbian neighbor. Serbia was to be given preference before all others because she was to be advanced as the power against Austria-Hungary.

"Now King Ferdinand has redeemed the pledge he made to his people at the end of the second Balkan war—that the Bulgarian colors which were, after glorious fighting, but were discarded, should be folded up, should be flying free over the country lost at that time.

"Serbia, instead of seeking an understanding to save the country from the sacrifices of a fresh campaign, decided not only to oppose the united attack of the allied German and Austro-Hungarian armies, but also to attack her eastern neighbors.

"Our troops have fought in the Serbian mountains bravely, overcoming all hardships. We tender to our warm thanks, as well as to our old loyal Austro-Hungarian comrades and to our newly won friend, the Bulgarian army, which by its side is winning its due place in the Balkans.

"With heroic bravery the Turks have held watch over the Dardanelles, the fall of which Mr. Asquith prophesied in the summer. Today the Dardanelles stand firmer than ever. Also at Bagdad the Turks have given a perceptible blow to the English."

"The opening of the way in the Near East is a landmark in the history of this war. Direct military connection with Turkey is of inestimable value, economically the imports from the Balkans complete our supplies in the most welcome manner. Prospects, moreover for the future are full of promise.

BULGARIA PRAISED.
"Thanks to the foresighted policy of King Ferdinand a firm bridge has been constructed between the indisputably allied Kaiser powers, the Balkans and the Near East. After the conclusion of peace this bridge will permit for works of peace and culture. "What our adversaries have lost politically and militarily in the Balkans they are now attempting to compensate themselves for by a policy and actions of violence against neutral powers.

"Now it is Greece's turn arbitrarily. England and France began disembarking troops at Salonika in spite of the energetic protests of the Greek government. Now they are behaving there as masters of the country. We are now witnessing the interesting spectacle of how the combatants of Prussian militarism employ the dominating power of the British fleet as a brutal menace to compel the Greek government to violate its duties as a neutral.

GREAT BRITAIN CANCELS ORDERS OF REQUISITION

In Cases of American Ships Hocking and Genesee Will Determine Ownership in Prize Court.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Great Britain advised the United States today that in response to the state department's protest in the case of the steamship Hocking and other vessels of the American Trans-Atlantic company orders requisitioning the Hocking and Genesee would be cancelled and test cases would be tried promptly in a prize court to dispose of the charge that that company is partly German owned.

Two of the steamers seized by British cruisers, the Winnago and the Kanaka, will be released under bond. The Hocking and Genesee cases will be made the basis of the test. To accelerate disposition of the issue, those cases will be transferred from Halifax and St. Lucia to London, thus avoiding delay by appeals from subordinate courts.

Notice of Great Britain's action came to Secretary Lansing through Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador here, and Ambassador Page at London.

BETHEHEM STEEL PLANT EXPLOSION KILLS, INJURES 15

South Bethlehem, Pa., Dec. 10.—An explosion today in the fuse plant of the Bethlehem Steel company at Redington, six miles from here, killed one workman and injured 15 others, several of them seriously. The accident occurred in the pellet department of the plant and resulted, it was said, from a spark at a communicating with quantities of powder in the room.

Philip Adams of Easton, Pa., was the man killed. The injured were brought to this city. They are residents of Allentown, Easton, South Bethlehem and other neighboring towns. Their injuries consist mainly of burns and all are expected to recover.

The room in which the explosion occurred was badly damaged. All the employees who were at work in adjoining departments and buildings were sent home for the remainder of the day.

Information regarding the explosion was for a time difficult to obtain, officials of the Bethlehem Steel company in this city maintaining their usual silence as to what occurred within its plants.

The fuse plant employs several hundred men who are at present employed chiefly in making shell fuses for the entente allies.

This is the second explosion that has occurred at the Redington plant within four months. On August 20 ten men were burned by a powder flash.

RAISE \$41,000.

Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage Finances Amendment Campaign.

Washington, Dec. 12.—More than \$41,000 was raised in 15 minutes at a mass meeting held here today by the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage in connection with its annual convention. The money will be used to finance the work of organizing for a nationwide campaign to secure the passage of the Susan B. Anthony suffrage amendment by the present Congress. The largest individual contribution was that of Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, who pledged \$10,000 for the New York delegation.

The meeting was called in honor of Miss Frances Jodine and Mrs. Sara Hard Field, the two envoys of western women voters, who motored across the continent with a monster petition to Congress for a suffrage amendment.

FRAT HOUSE BURNED.

Four Hamilton College Students Jump from Second Story.

Clinton, N. Y., Dec. 12.—The Sigma Phi fraternity house at Hamilton College here was destroyed by fire early yesterday with an estimated loss of \$60,000. Four students, who were asleep in the house at the time of the fire, escaped by jumping from the second floor to the ground. They were George V. Pope of Gloucester, Ill.; Edward Parmelee of Kenilworth, N. Y.; Bradford Odger of New Hartford, N. Y.; and William M. Bristol of Brooklyn.

A MASON OVER 60 YEARS.

E. W. Huntley of Waterbury has been a Mason over 60 years, having joined Winoski Lodge, No. 46, in Waterbury in May, 1851. His petition was sent in March 4, 1851, the committee reported favorably April 12, he was initiated April 8, passed May 13, and raised to Master Mason May 20. His first office was tiler and he has held every office in the lodge. N. K. Brown of Burlington, a Mason for 60 years, was a charter member of Winoski Lodge and the only charter member now living.

NARROWLY ESCAPES HANGING.

A. F. Ruggles had a narrow escape from accidental hanging while working in the woods at East Theford. He had cut down a tree, which lodged. In trying to get it down his foot slipped and he fell in such a way as to hang himself. But the tree gave way and he was freed.

NO "PATCHED-UP PEACE" AFTER WAR, SAYS PRESIDENT

Urges American Business Men to Mobilize Their Resources for United States' Part in the World's Affairs.

MAKES ATTACK ON MONOPOLY

Chief Executive Also Declares That As Long as He Is President Nobody Shall But In to Alter the Mexicans' Government for Them.

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 10.—President Wilson today expressed the opinion that there will be no "patched-up peace" after the European war. In a comprehensive and forceful address before the Columbus Chamber of Commerce he urged American business men to mobilize their resources in order that the United States might be prepared to play a more important part in the world's affairs, and bring about justice after the present war.

The president spoke at a reception here in Columbus. His reception was enthusiastic and pleased him greatly. In addition to the chamber of commerce speech, he delivered an address to-night before the commission on country and church life of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, shook hands with more than 7,000 people at a reception in the rotunda of the State capital, spoke briefly to a large crowd from the steps of the capitol, and took a long walk about the streets of Columbus.

DEFENDS MEXICAN POLICY.

In the chamber of commerce address, the president defended his Mexican policy and said as long as he was president nobody should "butt in" to alter the Mexicans' government for them; urged business men to pay more attention to foreign business, and he urged self-reliance in the restoration of the American merchant marine, praised the new banking and currency law, and touched on the attitude of the United States toward the European war.

A MILITANT DEMOCRAT.

"I, gentlemen, am a democrat, as you probably have heard, and I am a militant democrat," said the president, "but it is because I believe that the principles of democracy will be of more service to the country than any other kind of principles. Not because I believe democrats are better than republicans; it is because I think republicans are mistaken and democrats right, and I hope and believe that I hold that conviction in no narrower partisan spirit. I find that I am one of the few men of my acquaintance who absolutely believe every word of the example of the Virginia bill of rights. Men may use them for fourth of July purposes and use them very handsomely, but I stand before you and tell you that I believe them. For example, the Virginia bill of rights—I cite that because it was one of the first bills of rights; the others were largely modeled upon it or run along the same lines—the Virginia bill of rights says that when a government proves unsuitable to the needs of the people under it (am not quoting the language, but the meaning), they have a right to alter or abolish it in any way that they please. When things were perhaps more debatable than they are now about our immediate neighbor to the south of us, I believe that the Virginia bill of rights was a great step forward. I think it is a great deal to say recently and it has been very profitably said, about the school as a social center. I for my part believe in making the school the social center, the place that the community can use for any kind of coordinating that it wants to do in its life. But I believe that where the school-house is inadequate, and even where it is adequate, the most vital social center should be the church itself; and that not by way of organizing the church for social service, but of making the community realize that the congregation and parishes are the most important in everything that is important for that community, and that the members of the church are ready to co-operate and the pastor ready to lend his time and his energy to the kind of organization which is necessary outside the church as well as in, for the benefit of the community."

COMMUNIPAW SAFE.

Report of American Oil Steamer Torpedoed is Unfounded.

London, Dec. 8.—A telegram from Alexandria, Egypt, received today by Lloyd's, says that the American steamship Communipaw, reported sunk off the coast of Tripoli by a submarine, arrived at Alexandria on Monday. It is inferred that possibly some confusion has arisen in regard to the identity of the vessel torpedoed.

Was a Vermont.

Pittsfield, Mass., Dec. 12.—Clarence P. Niles, who was elected district attorney of this section of the State last year, died today after a brief illness. He has been prominent as a member of the Berkshire bar since he came here from Vermont in 1891. The legislative bill for the improved highway on the Hoosack mountain known as the Mohawk trail, was drawn by him.

BRAKEMAN INJURED.

Frank Blake, head brakeman on a north-bound Boston & Maine freight train, was injured about the back at Brattleboro December 8 by being struck by the new overpass. The overpass has a clearance over the rails of only 18 feet, allowed by a special act of the Legislature.

ATTACKS MONOPOLY.

The president attacked monopoly in business and said that the only object of organization in business should be efficiency rather than the shutting out of weaker men. He added, however, that

AN 8,000-TON TRANSPORT SUNK

British Submarine Destroys One of the Remaining Few Turkish Troop Ships—Only Seven Left.

London, Dec. 13, 3:52 a. m.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Athens says that advices received in the Greek capital from Constantinople are to the effect that the Turkish transport Rehid Pasha, a vessel of 8,000 tons, has been sunk near Silyria in the Sea of Marmara by a French submarine.

The correspondent adds that, according to the same report, Turkey now possesses but seven transports, the remainder have been sunk by the Entente allies' submarines.

he looked forward to the future of American business with the greatest confidence. As far as the business of the country is concerned, he asserted emphatically, there ought not to be any politics. American businessmen, he declared, have been too timid and have been too prone to run to Washington with their troubles. The president added that American businessmen have genius enough to master the enterprises of the world.

The address was dedicated before more than 1,500 men and women in the Atlantic Temple, which was draped with American flags. Near him sat Governor Willis, former Governor Judson Harmon, Senators Fomere and Harding, Representative Brumbaugh, and others of Ohio's leading men.

Larry Gardner Signs.

Boston, Dec. 9.—Larry Gardner, third baseman of the world champion Red Sox, sent his signed contract to President Landon today. It calls for a salary similar to that which he received last year.

DEATH OF D. P. CEELEY.

St. Johnsbury, Dec. 9.—Word has been received here of the death at the National Soldiers' Home at Hampton, Va., of Daniel P. Ceeley of this place. Mr. Ceeley was a prominent Grand Army man and past commander of Chamberlain Post. He leaves a son, C. A. Ceeley, of London. The body will be brought here for burial.

PRESIDENT WILSON TELLS NEEDS OF COUNTRY CHURCH

Columbus, Dec. 10.—In his evening address before the closing session of the National Conference of the Commission on Church and Country Life, President Wilson emphasized the need of making country churches more useful. He spoke before 4,000 persons, including many clergymen and agriculturists from all parts of the country.

Grand Jury Finds a Bill Against Harlow Hatch for Alleged Shooting of Sumner G. Brown.

St. Johnsbury, Dec. 9.—The grand jury for Chittenden county completed its labors today and reported one true bill, Harlow Hatch was indicted for manslaughter in connection with the shooting of Sumner G. Brown on Sunday evening in Hatch's pool room here after the two men returned from an auto ride. They were alone in the room at the time and the State has been unable to establish a motive. So the indictment for manslaughter was generally expected. Hatch will be tried at the present term of court. He has retained Simmons, Scullies and Graves of St. Johnsbury and the State will be represented by State Attorney N. A. Norton of Lyndonville and Attorney-General Barber of Brattleboro.

MT. SINAI TEMPLE.

George I. Whitney of Bellows Falls Is Elected Illustrious Potentate.

Montpelier, Dec. 9.—George I. Whitney of Bellows Falls, a prominent potentate of Mount Sinai Temple at the annual meeting held this afternoon in the city hall. Covers were laid for 400 members at the banquet which was held following the business session in Armory hall. At the ceremonial session following seven candidates were initiated. It was unanimously voted to have a committee appointed by the potentate to draw up resolutions of sympathy for the Hon. Joseph A. DeLozier, who has been ill for several months and whose condition follows to improve.

Following is the list of officers elected: Illustrious potentate, George I. Whitney, Bellows Falls; chief of rabbin, Fred C. Gilson, St. Johnsbury; assistant rabbin, Franklin Barney, Jr., Springfield; high priest and prophet, Collins Blakey, Montpelier; Charles E. Grossarth, Burlington; treasurer, David A. Elliott, White River Junction; recorder, Charles H. Heaton, Montpelier; representatives to the imperial council to be held at Buffalo, N. Y., Hilarious Potentate George I. Whitney, Otto V. Green of Bethel, William J. Thadall of Montpelier and Joseph M. Bullock of Northfield.

COMMISSION SAID TO BE REVOKED.

Although the bank officials have made no statement it is said that the Marble Savings bank of Rutland has revoked the commission of treasurer held by John J. Murphy, who disappeared from Rutland last Friday in November. It is said that the board of trustees of the bank took the action at a special meeting November 28. It is probable that the work will be carried on for the present by Assistant Treasurer Lathrop H. Baldwin, but the bank officials have said nothing as to present plans. No denial was forthcoming that Mr. Murphy's commission had been revoked, says the Rutland Herald Thursday.

OBSERVE THE WARNING.

A cold that promises to "hang on all winter" is to be dreaded. Prompt action should be taken at the first warning of a cold—sneezing, chills, slight shivering, Foley's Honey and Tar makes quick work of coughs, colds and croup. It clears air passages, stops coughing, eases difficult breathing. J. W. O'Sullivan, Adv.

357,515 PEOPLE PAY INCOME TAX; TOTAL \$41,046,162

Amount Is \$13,000,000 More Than Was Paid the Year Before—171 Pay on Income of \$500,000 or More.

32,764 NORMAL TAXPAYERS

127,448 Report Incomes of Between \$1,000 and \$5,000—Returns for Corporation Income Taxes Drop off Owing to Bad Business Condition.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The personal income tax was paid during the last fiscal year by 357,515 individuals, who turned in to the government \$41,046,162 more by nearly \$13,000,000 than the total paid by the 257,328 making returns the year before, according to the annual report of the commissioner of internal revenue, made public tonight.

"The greatest increase shown was in the amounts paid by those subject to the normal tax, a jump from about \$247,000 in 1914 to about \$16,555,000 in 1915.

Income exceeding \$5,000 paid this year about \$6,390,000 compared with about \$247,000 last year. There were 3,754 individuals subject to the normal tax; 171 of whom reported incomes between \$100,000 and \$500,000 and 174 whose returns were made on a basis of incomes of \$50,000 or more.

"Under the corporation income tax 29,445 returns were made, a decrease of 17,784 from the previous year as a result of the report to various conditions, including disturbed business conditions incident to the war in Europe and the trouble in Mexico. The corporations paid \$3,984,572, or about \$6,627,000 less than in 1914. The report says examination showed that but few corporations had purposes fulfilled their returns or sought to evade the tax.

"Under the use of artificially colored electromarine are said to have reached the total of \$17,922,514, of which only \$4,011,532 was within the assessable period. During the year \$15,000 was collected on account of these frauds, and more is expected.

"The total revenue collected from all sources by the bureau amounted to about \$10,581,000. The emergency tax law brought in \$2,669,000, the tax on distilled spirits other than those distilled from fruits about \$15,930,000, compared with about \$15,000,000 in 1914, and the tax on fermented liquors increased from about \$7,000,000 paid in 1914 to about \$7,000,000 this last year.

DICTED FOR MAN'S MURDER

Grand Jury Finds a Bill Against Harlow Hatch for Alleged Shooting of Sumner G. Brown.

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BIG INCREASE IN POSTAL REVENUES

Fifty Largest Postoffices in Country Produce Half the Receipts—November Gain \$2,000,000.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Marked improvement in business conditions is reflected in the November revenues of the 50 largest postoffices of the country, producing approximately half of all the postal receipts. Postmaster-General Burleson announced this statement today in a statement showing an increase of \$2,000,000 or 17.96 per cent for those offices over November a year ago.

The normal rate of increase is about 7 percent, but November last year showed a decrease of 3.71 per cent, as a result of the business depression which began immediately after the outbreak of the European war. Total receipts of the 50 cities were \$12,325,459 in November this year.

TWO GERMANS REMOVED.

French Cruiser Stops an American Ship.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Dec. 12.—A wireless warning directing her to come within the three-mile limit was received by the steamer San Juan of the New York and Porto Rico Steamship company a short time before the French cruiser Descaudres, it is reported here. The warship also picked up the message while steaming to meet the liner which was stopped near Arcebo, 9 miles from here. The young French officer who boarded the San Juan knew William Guntherdt and Frisch.

Captain Egan told the following story: "The officer asked for the passenger lists, and pointed out the names of Guntherdt and Frisch, asking us to produce them. One other man, C. L. Schifferdecker, among several passengers with German names was questioned by the Frenchman, but not taken off when he asserted he was an American citizen."

"Upon leaving the ship Guntherdt directed that a valuable package in the purser's safe be delivered to the German consul here and asked that his trunk be held to await instructions from him. Both the Germans, who were traveling second class, appeared like ordinary mechanics according to the other passengers who knew nothing of their business."

AN "ENEMY VESSEL."

German Prize Court Passes on a Seized American Cotton Ship.

Hamburg, Germany, via London, Dec. 12.—The prize court which has before it the case of the American ship, Pass of Baltimore, has decided to treat her as "an enemy vessel." It is announced that the evidence has established that the ship was under the British flag until the end of 1914 and was sold to an American company after the outbreak of the war.

The Pass of Baltimore was captured while she was on her way to Archangel, Russia, with a cargo of cotton, which has been sold for 2,500,000 marks (about \$63,000). A judgment covering the proceeds will be announced on December 18. Henry H. Morgan, the American consul-general, attended the hearings in the case.

ESTABLISHES RECORD.

President Wilson Shakes Hands with 7,000 People.

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 10.—President Wilson today established a new record for number of persons greeted by him at a public reception, according to members of his official party. Seven thousand persons passed through the rotunda of the State capitol and shook his hand. It was estimated, while 5,000 was considered the largest number ever before greeted by the President on a similar occasion.

At four o'clock, after the President and others in the receiving line had shaken the hands of nearly 6,000 men, women and children for an hour and a half, Dr. Cary T. Grayson, the President's physician, recommended that the capitol doors be closed and no others admitted. The President refused to give his approval.

Mrs. Frank B. Willis, wife of Ohio's Governor, was at the head of the suffrage delegation. She gave President Wilson a bouquet of yellow roses and white lilies-of-the-valley, representing suffragists' colors.

REALISM OF THE MOVIES

Thrills Sometimes Constitute the Actor's Last Appearance.

Flung overboard from a burning yacht, which had been sucked into a whirlpool and charred with dynamite, struggling on life rafts in a rough sea, racing an automobile over the edge of a dock—diving with it and taking a chance on getting out—such things put realism into the movies, give sometimes constitute the actor's last appearance. For often just as real as the actual destruction of a ship is the fight for life portrayed before the lens of the camera, as may be judged from a number of pictures appearing in the Popular Mechanics Magazine.

The staging of a photoplay which included the burning and sinking of a small craft and the title of those aboard it to save themselves recently was undertaken by a producer. Without flames, explosions and the loss of the vessel, the picture would lack realism. Unless men fought for their lives while the fire ate its way to the dynamite which would break the boat amidship, reality again would be sacrificed. When the picture was run the screen is lacking none of these qualities. Large quantities of turpentine saturated the ship after it had been stripped of its interior fittings. Explosives were placed aboard. It then had to be fired while those who did the work took a chance. As the flames and smoke shot most high, the men jumped into the sea, were picked up by boats and carried to a safe distance away before the terrific blast tore the craft apart and sent it to the bottom.

DEER BOUNDED INTO AUTOMOBILE

A deer, blinded by the bright lights of the car, bounded across the highway at South Vernon the other day and landed in R. E. Blodgett's automobile.

SPRINGER COACHED RIFLE TEAM.

Credit for coaching the Vermont rifle team, which participated in the national matches in Florida, should have been given, in a recent article, to Lieut. W. P. Springer, Co. F, 1st Infantry, and not to Capt. J. L. F.